

FACT SHEET

General Permit for the Discharge of Groundwater Remediation Wastewater

Permit Overview

This general permit is issued under the authority of, and administered by the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection's (DEEP's) Bureau of Materials Management and Compliance Assurance, Water Permitting and Enforcement Division. The DEEP uses both individual and general permits to regulate wastewater discharge activities. Individual permits are issued directly to an applicant, whereas general permits are issued to authorize similar activities by one or more applicants throughout a prescribed geographic area. Authorization of an activity under a general permit is governed by that general permit. A general permit sets terms and conditions for conducting an activity which, when complied with, are protective of the environment. General permits represent a streamlined process to permit specific activities and are more cost-effective for both the DEEP and the registrant.

This general permit applies to discharges of groundwater remediation wastewater wastewaters (as defined therein), whether discharged to a surface water, groundwater, Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTWs) or hauled to a POTW.

Authorizing Statutes

Section 22a-430b of the General Statutes, as amended by Public Act 91-263.

Required submittals and certification requirements

A Qualified Professional (PE, LEP, or CHMM), as defined in the general permit, shall :

- Review general permit requirements relating to the subject facility;
- Make an affirmative determination that the treatment system and/or best management practices developed for the discharge, are adequate to assure that the activity authorized under this general permit will comply with the terms and conditions of such general permit;
- Provide a certification regarding such affirmative determination.

A registration fee of \$625.00 or \$1,250.00 if an Approval of Registration is required, established in accordance with section 22a-6f of the General Statutes, shall be submitted.

Fees associated with this general permit shall be paid by certified check or money order payable to the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection.

Effluent Limits

Effluent limits are established in the General Permit for discharges to surface waters which are based on best available technology or aquatic life criteria, whichever is lower. Dilution available in the receiving water were considered when developing these limits.

In addition, site specific limits may be developed under an Approval of Registration if special conditions warrant more stringent limits.

Different limits were developed for discharges to sanitary sewer systems. These take into account potential impacts on sewer conveyances, impacts on biological treatment and potential pass-through the WPCF.

Limits for discharge to the ground will be site specific and dependent on groundwater classification and the nature of the injection. In general, the assumption for discharge to the ground is that no pollution to groundwater will result from the authorized activity.

Significant changes incorporated into this General Permit

This general permit combines the existing general permits that authorize discharges to sanitary sewer and surface waters into a single regulatory framework. Many of the operational requirements remain similar to the existing structure, and there are some significant changes to activities authorized as well as conditions applicable to surface water discharges. The following summarizes the major changes:

1. All discharges will be evaluated for emerging pollutants as defined by USEPA. Should emerging pollutants be documented as a concern, conditions will be established as part of an approval of registration.
2. Certification by a Qualified Professional, as defined in the permit, will be required for all discharges that continue for longer than thirty (30) days.
3. All discharges will be screened for Total Nitrogen and Total Phosphorus.
4. All discharges of longer than 30 days are subject to NetDMR reporting requirements.
5. Discharges to Impaired Waters will be subject to specific conditions.
6. The following discharges to surface water which were previously ineligible for coverage may now be covered under this general permit by issuance of an Approval of Registration:
 - a. The discharge is directed to a receiving water is classified as Class AA or is tributary to drinking water supply, or
 - b. The combined discharge flow exceeds 10% of the 7Q10 flow of the receiving stream

or 1/2% of the impoundment, lake or pond receiving the discharge, or

- c. The discharges uses a stormwater conveyance as part of the treatment system for the reduction of volatile organic compounds.
- d. Discharges may be authorized to groundwater from specific remediation activities and remediation system maintenance waters if issued an Approval of Registration.